

EXCISE REPORT TONED DOWN

ONE OF GOV. FORT'S COMMISSIONERS FEARED LIBEL.

CRITICISMS OF JUDGES AND OTHER OFFICIALS
and of Certain Political Influences
Modified—Evils of Present System
Described and Remedies Suggested.

TRIDENT, N. J., Dec. 14.—The majority report of Gov. Fort's excise investigation commission was whittled into final shape at a meeting of the commissioners held in New Brunswick to-day. It is the intention to have it in the Governor's hands by next Friday, together with the draft of a law carrying out the changes in excise legislation which are favored by President Charles J. Fisk and all but two of his associates on the commission.

So far as the general findings of the commission are involved, no changes were made to-day, but some of the allegations regarding the actions of Judges, Sheriffs and other officials were modified to meet the views of ex-Judge J. Kearney Rice of the commission, who feared that an originally drawn might constitute a libel and refused to sign the document unless revised. Among the subjects thus modified were the criticisms originally made of the methods of selecting juries in Hudson county and the manner in which they had been in the habit of dealing with excise matters.

The members also modified their former expressions regarding Judge Maja A. Berry of Ocean county, whose actions regarding the granting of a license in which he was personally interested were made the subject of a special inquiry. The modified report will express no opinion on the subjects thus modified, merely stating that the testimony in the possession of the Governor for such action as he decides to take. The report was further modified as regards the criticism of certain political influences. Then it was ordered printed as revised for submission to the Governor.

It was not intended that the report should be made public till it had been received by Gov. Fort, and the fact that parts of it have been circulated is believed by some of the majority members to be due to leaks on the part of the treasury interests who have managed to keep in close touch with the deliberations of the commission.

In the judgment of the majority members of the commission, as expressed in their report, more drastic laws and more vigorous means for their enforcement are needed. The abuses which the commissioners consider most serious are the political influence of the saloon and brewery in politics, the control of saloons by breweries, the influence of saloons in England and Russia were quick to understand that their interests call for the support of Turkey and the Servians. The German economic interests were also to the economical development of Serbia and Montenegro, which are rich in both agricultural and mineral resources.

"Unless it was a part of the original Austrian plan to march into Serbia at once and progress to Salonica it seems incredible that a modus vivendi would not be found to satisfy the demands of Turkey and the Servians; failing this peaceful settlement, the question must arise of a general European war, involving world interests."

"A regenerated Turkey makes possible not only the development of her own resources, but also the development of Serbia and Montenegro, which are rich in both agricultural and mineral resources."

The Prince keeps out of Serbia, as he does not want to have the advocates of his house, which is one of the oldest of Europe, inspired by his presence, to hurt the established authority.

After commenting upon the strength of the sentiment in favor of local option the commissioners expressed the belief that as long as liquor is manufactured and sold in the State, the State will be sold and drunk, license or no license. In parts of the State where licenses are granted the commission found a large number of saloons, many of which were organized and conducted for the purpose of supplying their members with intoxicating liquor and allowing the saloon to be used as a place of resort for the sale of liquor. It was also found that in such places liquor was continually sold in drug stores, hotels and "speakeasies" under cover and contrary to the law. The report says, the preponderance of evidence was strongly in favor of the provisions of the present law prohibiting the sale of liquor at any time on the Sabbath.

The commission, while believing strongly in local self-government and home rule in regard to the liquor question, and the granting of licenses, before any action is taken directly upon the question as to whether liquor should be sold or not in a community, the State should provide for the regulation and enforcement of the law. To that end the commission has seen fit to recommend that a local excise board should be elected in every municipality with ample power to grant and refuse licenses and to control and regulate the sale of intoxicating liquor, thus placing the matter as to whether licenses should be granted or not entirely in the hands and subject to the will of the people residing in each municipality.

There are 7,253 saloons in the State holding retail liquor licenses, this being in the proportion of one license to every 100 inhabitants. There are also 408 saloons and 1,000 other places where liquor is sold. The commission believes that one license for every 500 inhabitants would be ample and suggests legislation providing for a limitation on the number of saloons to at least one saloon in every municipality. The commission was surprised at the small amount of alcohol required in the legitimate business of the State, and by the amount of alcoholic beverages actually dispensed by them. Although disfavoring the licensing of druggists to sell liquor, the commission believes that the sale of intoxicating liquors to medicinal purposes only.



Grapes
—delicious,
healthful—give
the most valuable
ingredient, the
active principle, to
ROYAL
BAKING POWDER

Royal Baking Powder is indispensable not only for rich or fine food or for special times or service, but is equally valuable in the preparation of plain, substantial, every-day foods, for all occasions. It makes the food more tasty, nutritious and wholesome.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK

PRINCE HAD IT TYPEWRITTEN.

Servian Has an American Wife Who Knew the Fashion Here.

Prince Lazarovich Hreb-Ellanovich of Servia arrived yesterday by the White Star liner Celtic with his American wife, who was Miss Eleanor Calhoun of San Francisco, and once an actress. The Prince has been living chiefly in London in recent years, but he is much interested in the progress of his native land. He had a typewritten statement ready for the reporters who boarded the Celtic at Quarantine, and he supplemented it with a few remarks. He declared that he was not a pretender to the Servian throne. This is the essential part of the Prince's statement which he was inspired to write by his wife, who told him the reporters would want to talk to him.

"For the Servian race this bitter crisis is the beginning of its resurrection. I am proud to say that all Servians have sunk their differences and rallied to the moral force around the two recognized Servian rulers, King Peter of Servia and Prince Nicola of Montenegro, and all are inspired by the same patriotic feeling. England and Russia were quick to understand that their interests call for the support of Turkey and the Servians. The German economic interests were also to the economical development of Serbia and Montenegro, which are rich in both agricultural and mineral resources."

"Unless it was a part of the original Austrian plan to march into Serbia at once and progress to Salonica it seems incredible that a modus vivendi would not be found to satisfy the demands of Turkey and the Servians; failing this peaceful settlement, the question must arise of a general European war, involving world interests."

TOO FEW 8TH ST. CARS.

P. S. Board Finds That 34 More Should Cross Williamsburg Bridge.

In June last, when complaint was made to the Public Service Commission that the Eighth street cars crossing Williamsburg bridge were overcrowded, the board ordered the Metropolitan company to provide an increased service. As the complaints still continued to come in after the order had been issued, the commission put a force of inspectors to work in November. At a public hearing held yesterday it was shown by the representatives of the commission that the company was still operating under the old schedule, which provided for only six cars when the capacity of the bridge would easily accommodate ninety-seven, and that the crowding was as bad as when the commission made its investigation. The board will take prompt action in the morning to order the company to increase its service.

NEW JOB FOR OTTO KELSEY.

He Will Retire From Insurance Department to Be Deputy State Comptroller.

ALBANY, Dec. 14.—Otto Kelsey will retire from the Insurance Department to become Deputy State Comptroller under State Comptroller-elect Charles H. Gaus. Mr. Kelsey's term as State Superintendent of Insurance expires on February 1, according to the Executive Chamber records, although Superintendent Kelsey's friends insist that his three year term would not expire until May 2.

Mr. Kelsey's appointment to the Comptroller's office was agreed upon at a conference of Republican State machine leaders in New York city over a week ago, but Mr. Kelsey at first refused to accept the proffered appointment, preferring to retire to private life under the circumstances. He had served as State Comptroller and as Deputy Comptroller previously. Some of Mr. Kelsey's friends thought he should not take the lesser position again.

The New York conference decided not to fight Gov. Hughes during his coming two years administration on things "in which the Governor was essentially right," including his desire to replace Mr. Kelsey in an orderly manner at the end of his term. But at the same time leaders thought their own position would be maintained by giving Mr. Kelsey the best appointive position in the gift of the machine.

Accordingly Mr. Kelsey was brought around to their way of thinking and to-day Mr. Gaus announced Mr. Kelsey's appointment at a salary of \$5,000 plus a \$1,000 allowance in lieu of salary for the balance of the year.

Buffalo's Mayor Makes Objection to Gov. Hughes.

ALBANY, Dec. 14.—Mayor J. W. Adam of Buffalo had a talk with Gov. Hughes to-day about various matters affecting that city upon which he desires legislation at the coming session of the State Legislature.

AGAIN Paderewski Selects
The WEBER
For His Personal Use

Last year Paderewski played the Weber Piano continually and exclusively during the most successful tour of his career. He applied to it every test known to the art of the pianist.

Now he returns to the United States for another series of concerts and AGAIN HIS CHOICE, AMONG ALL THE GREAT PIANOS RESTS UPON THE WEBER.

The Weber's Supremacy To-day Is Absolutely Fixed by the Preference of the Greatest Pianist of the Age.

The rapid progress made by the Weber in recent years has created a new standard of piano excellence. This notable advance has received recognition throughout the entire musical world.

Paderewski ratified his original choice of the Weber:—
First, in an autograph letter praising it enthusiastically and unreservedly.
Second, by again playing the Weber on his latest concert tour.

Could any higher evidence be imagined or desired of the Weber's positive leadership to-day?
PURCHASABLE ON MODERATE MONTHLY PAYMENTS.

On Sale in Brooklyn Only
at the
Headquarters
Alphonzo Smith
Piano House
23-25-27 Flatbush Avenue
Nevins Street Subway Station, Brooklyn.
OPEN EVENINGS UNTIL CHRISTMAS.

Light collars beget heavy collar bills. Get the heavy 4-ply ARROW COLLARS

15c. each—2 for 25c. Cluett, Peabody & Co., Makers

Gifts for Children
Baby spoons, children's sets, food pushers, etc., are very appropriate. The pieces are stamped "1847 ROGERS BROS."

They represent the very highest quality in silver plate.

Best sets, dishes, waiters, etc., are stamped MERIDEN BRITIA CO. "Silver Plate that Wears"

AMUSEMENTS.

NEW AMSTERDAM THEATRE. 42d St. To-morrow Little Nemo will hold a reception on the stage for the ladies and children. Little Nemo's new production "The Little Nemo Show" will be given.

GAITY THEATRE. 46th St. & Broadway. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway & 41st St. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

TO-NIGHT. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

JOSEPH O'MARA. In the "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

AMUSEMENTS.

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE. Grand Opera Season 1908-1909. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

LIBERTY. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

NEW YORK THEATRE. Broadway & 41st St. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

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LOOK ABOUT
You'll be bewildered by a thousand twaddly and useless things for Holiday Gifts.

Then come here.

You'll be refreshed by the well-arranged display of useful articles for Men and Boys.

From a Scarf or a Scarf Pin, to a Suit of Evening Clothes or a Fine Fur Overcoat, this store has what men best like and most want.

Browning King & Company
Broadway at 32nd Street
Cooper Square at 5th Street
Fulton Street, Brooklyn

ROGERS, PEET & COMPANY.
Three Broadway Stores.
258 at Warren st. 442 at 13th st. 1302 at 34th st.

Everything men and boys wear, and many things they don't wear, but want.

On our Xmas tree—
\$5.85 for Xmas.

Kennedy
112 CORTLAND ST.
Christmas Problems Easily Solved Just Hints

Superb Scarfs 55c worth 1.00.

1.50 Shirts at 98c.

3.00 Fanny Vests . . . at 1.98

1.50 Tan Cape Gloves . . . at 1.10

5.00 Fur Gauntlets . . . at 2.98

4.00 Sweater Coats . . . at 2.98

1.50 Union Suits (Underwear) 98c

AMUSEMENTS.

EMPIRE THEATRE. 40th St. & Broadway. To-morrow, Monday, Dec. 14, "The Traveling Salesman" will be given.

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